(a) the number of incidents of burst of gas cylinders reported in Delhi during 1996 and 1997 so far;

(b) the number of casualities in these incidents; and

(c) the precautionary measures taken by Government to avoid recurrence of such accidents ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) According to the public sector Oil Companies, no report of burst of LP Gas Cylinders has been reported in Delhi during 1996 and 1997 (upto 30.6.97)

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

[Translation]

Regional Offices of KVS

3053. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA :
SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government propose to set up some more regional offices of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; location-wise; and

(c) the time by which these office are likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Setting up of Tubewells in H.P.

3054. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the funds earmarked to Himachal Pradesh to meet the requirement of tubewells, irrigation and drinking water; and

(b) the names of places where the State Government has urged the Union Government for the installation of trube wells ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) Funds earmarked to Himachal Pradesh during 1996-97 for major and medium, minor irrigation including tubewells and drinking water are given below :

	Approved outlay (Rs. in lakhs)
Major & Medium	321.70 (Revised)
Minor Irrigation (including tubewells)	3676.07 (Revised)
Drinking water	10632.60

(b) No such request has been received from State Government.

Making Practical Optional

3055. PROF. OMPAL SINGH NIDAR :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to make the subjects optional involving dissection of animals for the study purposes in schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c) In pursuance of the judgement of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in CWP No. 1391/96 dated 19.5.97, Government have already issued instrucitons on 23.5.97 to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT) to make dissection of animals optional to students of Senior Secondary stage and the existing syllabus be modified by the NCERT and CBSE jointly to include alternate activities and experiments.

[English]

Supply of Bitumen

3056. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :
SHRI B.K. GADHVI :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria fixed for allotment of Bitumen to the various States;

(b) whether demand from the States for supply of bitumen has been received;

(c) if so, the quantity of bitumen demanded by each State during the current year and last year and the quantity supplied to these States;

(d) the production of bitumen in Koyali and Mathura refineries during each of last two years; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to import remaining quantity of bitumen from other countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The Central Government approves allotment of bitumen based on the demand projected by various States.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details of quantity of bitumen demanded by each State during the current year and the last year alongwith the quantities supplied are enclosed as a Statement.

(d) the bitumen production at Koyali and Mathura refineries during the last wo years is as under :-

Year	Production		(Fig. in TMT)
	Koyali	Mathura	
1995-96	313	394	
1996-97	363	430	

(e) There are no imports of bitumen since full demand of the States are met from the indigenous availability.

Statement

(Fig. in TMT)

States	Bitumen Demand Recd. From States by IBC.		Actual Quantity Supplied	
	1996-97	1997-98	1996-97	1997-98 (April-June)
1	2	3	4	5
Andaman & Nicobar	3.0	3.0	1.1	0.8
Arunachal Pradesh	6.0	4.0	5.5	0.1
Assam	29.0	48.8	21.5	6.1
Bihar	108.0	111.0	49.2	14.1
Manipur	7.0	0.5	2.6	0.0
Meghalaya	8.0	10.0	5.7	1.9
Mizoram	4.0	2.8	5.5	0.6
Nagaland	2.0	1.9	0.0	0.1
Orissa	49.0	52.0	57.0	7.6
Sikkim	2.0	2.0	2.5	0.0
Tripura	5.0	8.0	4.2	1.4
West Bengal	76.0	100.0	80.5	35.2
Central Sector	32.0	60.0	35.9	7.5
Andhra Pradesh	110.0	120.0	125.5	42.6
Karnataka	150.0	165.0	105.0	20.7
Kerala	80.0	136.0	77.5	30.7
Pondicherry	2.5	2.5	2.7	0.5
Tamil Nadu	185.0	173.0	138.4	43.7
Central Sector	8.0	4.0	10.5	2.4
Dadar and N. Haveli	2.0	3.2	0.7	0.1
Daman & Diu	1.5	1.5	0.8	0.1
Goa	17.0	19.5	14.0	2.0
Gujarat	284.0	552.0	238.8	69.2
Madhya Pradesh	110.0	82.0	114.6	15.7
Maharashtra	475.0	566.0	409.7	125.6
Central Sector	9.0	6.0	6.0	0.3
Chandigarh	4.0	4.0	0.7	2.3
Delhi	35.0	35.0	27.6	3.1
Haryana	136.0	130.0	100.7	16.1
Himachal Pradesh	17.0	35.0	19.4	2.9
Jammu & Kashmir	20.0	20.2	15.1	4.5
Punjab	210.0	250.0	176.8	41.2
Rajasthan	300.0	288.3	176.5	42.7
Uttar Pradesh	203.0	250.0	213.3	76.3
Central Sector	29.0	60.0	31.0	10.9

Plane Service between Hyderabad-Vijayawada-Triupati

3057. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a hopping plane service between Hyderabad-Vijayawada-Triupati and Madras by Indian Airlines;

(b) whether the same was discontinued some time ago causing inconvenience to the travelling public; and

(c) whether the Government propose to reoperate a service in this sector through alliance air after the fifty-seater aircraft are procured; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?